

REMARKS:

Applicant has carefully studied the nonfinal Examiner's Action and all references cited therein. The amendment appearing above and these explanatory remarks are believed to be fully responsive to the Action. Accordingly, this important patent application is now believed to be in condition for allowance.

Applicant responds to the outstanding Action by centered headings that correspond to the centered headings employed by the Office, to ensure full response on the merits to each finding of the Office.

Oath/Declaration

The examiner has determined the oath or declaration filed with the application to be defective. Specifically, applicant has failed to execute, i.e. sign, the declaration as filed.

Accordingly, a new declaration in compliance with 37 CFR 1.67(a) identifying this application by application number and filing date accompanies this amendment.

Drawings

The examiner has objected to the drawings as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(5) because Figure 1 does not include a reference designation "Table 1" as suggested by the disclosure on page 9, paragraph [0039], line 4.

A replacement paragraph for paragraph [0039] is presented with this amendment to overcome the examiner's objection to the drawings.

Specification

The examiner has objected to the disclosure, with specific reference to paragraph [0037].

A replacement paragraph for paragraph [0037] is presented with this amendment to overcome the examiner's objection to the disclosure.

Claim Objections

The examiner has objected to claims 1-8 due to informalities.

A set of replacement claims is presented with this amendment to overcome the examiner's objections due to informalities of the claims.

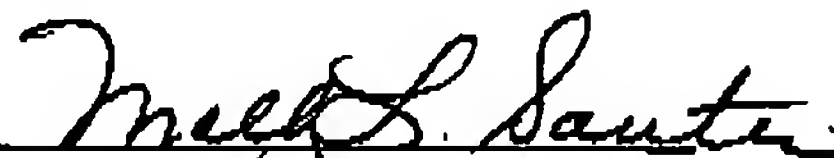
For the reasons cited above, Applicant believes that claims 1-9 are now in condition for allowance.

If the Office is not fully persuaded as to the merits of Applicant's position, or if an Examiner's Amendment would place the pending claims in condition for allowance, a telephone call to the undersigned at (727) 507-8558 is requested.

Very respectfully,

SMITH & HOPEN

Dated: September 23, 2004

By: 
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CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION
(37 C.F.R. 1.8(a))

I HEREBY CERTIFY that this Amendment A is being transmitted by facsimile to the United States Patent and Trademark Office, Art Unit 2856, Attn.: Daniel Sean Larkin, (703) 872-9318 on September 23, 2004.

Dated: September 23, 2004


Deborah Preza